

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 146373

16

ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 ADP-00 L-03

EB-11 PA-03 PRS-01 CG-00 /048 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:WSVIGLIENZONE:GJG

7/25/73 EXT. 20578

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:JDSTODDART

PM/ISO:- CAPT. DEWENTER

L/PM - L. FIELDS

ISA/FMRA - LTC. TERRY

CG/WAN - CDR. ROBILLARD

EA/ANP - L. MOSER

----- 057829

R 252156Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO USIA

DOD

CNO

NAVELEXSYSCOM FOR PME-119

CINCPAC

CINCPACREP CANBERRA

UNCLAS STATE 146373

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR/AS/US

SUBJECT: OMEGA

REF: A. CANBERRA 3974

B. CANBERRA 4026

1. DEPARTMENT PASSED TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY ON JULY 18 THE  
FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO AUSTRALIAN DOD QUESTIONS CONCERNING  
US SUBMARINE NAVIGATION SYSTEMS:

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 146373

"US FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE SUBMARINES (FBMS) ARE

EQUIPPED WITH THEIR OWN INERTIAL NAVIGATION SYSTEMS WHICH ARE MORE ACCURATE THAN OMEGA EQUIPMENT. BECAUSE OF CLASSIFICATION, THE USG IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE COMPARATIVE INFORMATION CONCERNING NAVIGATION SYSTEMS OF ATTACK AND FBM SUBMARINES. HOWEVER, IT IS UNWARRANTED TO ASSUME THAT ATTACK SUBS HAVE A BETTER NAVIGATION SYSTEM THAN FBMS. COST CONSIDERATIONS ARE NOT RELEVANT TO THE FACT THAT OMEGA RECEIVERS WILL NOT BE INSTALLED IN FBMS. AS THE USG HAS PREVIOUSLY INDICATED, THE ACCURACY OF THE OMEGA SYSTEM IS INADEQUATE FOR THE REQUIREMENTS OF FBMS."

2. DEPARTMENT ALSO AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE THREE AUSTRALIAN DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE BEING AIR POUCHED FYI.

3. AN AIRGRAM SENT THIS DATE WITH A SUMMARY OF THE JUNE 19-21 INTERNATIONAL OMEGA MEETING SPECIFIES THE US POSITION CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF CONTROL OF THE OMEGA SYSTEM. A DRAFT AGENCY-TO-AGENCY MOU CONCERNING OMEGA ORGANIZATION SHOULD BE READY IN ABOUT A MONTH. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE OMEGA SYSTEM IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE AIRGRAM.

4. YOU MAY USE THE DEPARTMENT (WITH DOD CONCURRENCE) AS THE SOURCE OF STATEMENT IN PARA 1 ABOVE AND MAY ADD DATE OF AUGUST 3, 1972, AS DOCUMENTS MENTIONED IN PARA 2 WILL CONFIRM.

5. DOD SAYS YOU HAVE LATEST OMEGA PAPERS AND THAT ADDITIONAL COPIES ARE BEING MAILED.

6. HONOLULU IS AND WILL REMAIN THE CONTROL POINT FOR THE OMEGA SYSTEM AS IT IS NOW ESTABLISHED. FUTURE AGREEMENT MAY CHANGE THIS, BUT ITS PRESENT LOCATION SHOULD IMPLY A DEGREE OF PERMANENCY. THE ENTIRE SYSTEM IS DEPENDENT UPON AUTONOMOUS HOST NATION CONTROL OF STATIONS. HOWEVER, INTERNATIONAL USEFULNESS OF, AND CONFIDENCE IN, THE OMEGA SYSTEM WILL DEMAND COORDINATION AND COOPERATION AMONG HOST NATIONS TO INSURE DEPENDABLE CONTINUOUS OPERATION. EXIST-  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 146373

ING AGREEMENTS SPECIFY THAT HOST NATIONS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THE CONTINUOUS OPERATION OF THE STATIONS AND THAT OPERATIONAL DETAILS SHALL BE EMBODIED IN SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENTS BY APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES OF PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS. ROGERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RADAR, SUBMARINES, ELECTRONIC SECURITY DEVICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE146373  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WSVIGLIENZONE:GJG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730711/aaaaahrt.tel  
**Line Count:** 112  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN PM  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 A. CANBERRA 3974  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by smithrj>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OMEGA  
**TAGS:** MARR, AS, US  
**To:** CANBERRA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005